

Message Text

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SUBJECT: GERMAN SALES OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY
TO BRAZIL

REF: BONN 07079

1. THE FOLLOWING IS AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF
AN EDITORIAL ENTITLED "THE BRAZIL DEAL" WHICH
APPEARED IN THE MAY 3RD EDITION OF THE
"SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG":

WHEN IT IS SAID IN BONN THAT THE GERMAN-
BRAZILIAN TRANSACTION WHICH IS NEARING
CONCLUSION -- LONG-TERM URANIUM SUPPLIES IN
RETURN FOR EXPORTS OF UP TO 8 NUCLEAR POWER
STATIONS AND LATEST NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY -- IS OF
SUBSTANTIAL POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE, THIS IS
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INDEED AN UNDERSTATEMENT. THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC

OF GERMANY IS ABOUT TO MAKE THE DREAM OF THE
LATE FRENCH PRESIDENT DE GAULLE IN THIS FIELD
COME TRUE; (A DREAM) WHICH WAS PROBABLY THE
CHIEF MOTIVATION FOR HIS SPECTACULAR TOUR OF
THE SUBCONTINENT: CLOSE LATIN AMERICAN/EUROPEAN
COOPERATION WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF LOOSENING
DEPENDENCY ON THE U.S.A.

IF THE DEAL WORKS OUT IN THE 1980'S A SUPPLY
BOTTLENECK THREATENS - GERMAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY
DEVELOPED WITH SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF TAXPAYERS'
MONEY WOULD SCORE A DECISIVE COMMERCIAL SUCCESS.
IT WOULD ALSO SET AN EXAMPLE FOR RESEARCH POLICY
HAVING TO BE CONSIDERED WITH A VIEW TO THE
SECURITY OF JOBS, BECAUSE IN THE LONG RUN JOBS
WILL ONLY BE SECURE IF WE SHIFT FROM EXPORTS OF
INDIVIDUAL PRODUCTS E.G. AUTOMOBILES OR ELECTRIC
MACHINERY TO EXPORTS OF SUPERIOR TECHNOLOGY
AND COMPLETE FACTORIES FOR AUTOMOBILES AND
ELECTRIC MACHINERY. CONSEQUENTLY, STRUCTURAL
POLICY WILL BE AFFECTED AND LONG-TERM PLANNING
AND INVESTMENTS GUIDED BY MORE PRACTICAL
CONSIDERATIONS.

AN INTENSE TUG-OF-WAR HAS BEEN GOING ON BACKSTAGE.
THAT THE AMERICANS, NOT WITHOUT USING THEIR
ELBOWS, SNATCHED FROM THE GERMANS THE EXPORT ORDER
FOR A NUCLEAR POWER STATION IN YUGOSLAVIA IS NOT
WITHOUT BEARING ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S
ATTITUDE. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LOOKED AFTER ITS
OWN INTERESTS WITH MORE SELF-ASSERTION AND GUTS
THAN IT WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE PRIOR TO THE NEW
EASTERN POLICY WHICH LOOSENEED SO MANY DIRECT
DEPENDENCIES. HILLENBRAND

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